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## LONDON AND COUNTRY BACHELORS.

THE class under description does not comprehend either the very rich or the very poor single gentlemen, occupying large establishments, giving fêtes to all the world, and the objects of much matrimonial speculation, or persons labouring diligently for a maintenance, or compelled, in consequence of the impossibility of adding to their incomes, to vegetate upon the half-pay of the army or navy. The bachelors of whom we write, are men of rather slender incomes, yet possessed of a competence, who, though unwilling to trouble themselves with any calling or profession which may add to their pecuniary means, lead slavish sort of lives in the pursuit of amusement, or a shorter road to riches. The country bachelor is by far the most respectable character of the tribe: he lives in a small cottage, and has contrived to get the privilege of shooting over several manors, being a great assistant to the gamekeepers in all their contests with poachers. If a gun be heard, or any less suspicious sound, in the middle of the night, up he gets, arms himself, and is in the midst of the preserves immediately. He employs the greater part of the time not occupied in field sports, in preparations for destroying vermin; he has a strong, active, little tawny terrier, as knowing as himself, and his barn-wall presents more trophies than that of any of the keepers within ten miles. If gifted with any talent, he becomes a naturalist, and can add something to the stock of knowledge upon the subject of water-rats, or other animals of doubtful character. He is hospitable, and can always give a fowl or a mutton-chop, and a glass of good wine, to a friend. He can make himself useful also in giving advice to novices or ladies who are fond of farming or gardening, and acts as veterinary surgeon, dog doctor, or bird doctor, as the case may require. He is acquainted with the situation and condition of the poor, and can afford them information upon the subject of emigration. He takes pains to reform those delinquents who may be reclaimable, and, discriminating between wilful and unpremeditated errors, has been the means of warding off punishment to many. Occasionally he receives letters from convicts in Australia, acknowledging his kindness, and asking some favour; and there is nothing that he deprecates so much as the notion of a paid magistracy, for he sees how necessary it is that those who are in the first instance applied to for the examination of offenders, should be philanthropists rather than mere lawyers, well acquainted with the nature and circumstances of the peasantry, and more pleased when they can dismiss a case with a wholesome reprehension, than to visit it with all the pains and penalties permitted by act of Parliament. He rides a very fair nag, and, without compromising his independence, dines at the best tables in the county, being especially useful at elections, and in all county business, both from his local knowledge, and the strong interest he takes in the soil. He objects to rail-roads, because they will spoil the hunting, and he puts down as many beer-shops as he can, not from an unkind feeling towards the poor, whom they were intended to benefit, but on account of the demoralisation they have occasioned. He never thinks of marrying, and is not much courted for a husband, the house he inhabits offering few temptations to ladies who have been taught to look out for comfortable establishments. It has been a cottage ornée, but is ornée no longer; degenerating into a mere shelter from the elements, not much more desirable than the kennel behind, whence issues, upon every occasion of disturbance, a most horrid compound of barking and yelping, he being a dog-breeder to a very considerable extent.

There are some varieties in the tribe of coun-

try bachelors, some who are floriculturists of great celebrity—a pursuit which brings along with it extreme neatness in the domestic habitation—who send tulips, hyacinths, auriculas, and dahlias, to the flower-shows at the proper season. His garden, in consequence, becomes quite the haunt of the ladies. The duchess and her daughters, who do not visit one of the resident families, honour him frequently with their company; they cannot at all understand the reason of the manifest superiority of many of his plants, neither pains nor expense being spared on their own: interchanges are effected, by which he is much the gainer, for every thing flourishes with him, while it is not so certain that transplantations from a peculiarly favourable soil and situation, will be attended with equal advantage. All the gardens would borrow a little of their brightness from his parterres, for our scientific florist rejects every thing save a perfect plant, and is prodigal in his donations of those which have not answered his expectations. Every now and then he produces a new variety, and then all the people from far and near flock to see it. The nurserymen look upon him with admiration, not unmixed with envy. He is communicative, both in conversation and in writing; corresponding with half the county, and printing accounts of his experiments in the horticultural periodicals of the day. But, notwithstanding all the pains which he takes in the diffusion of knowledge, his specimens remain unique; there is nothing equal to them to be seen elsewhere. Perhaps part of the secret may lie in his not having more than he can manage, and trusting solely to his own superintendence. The flowers may also appear to more advantage in the comparatively small bright spot which he has formed into a garden, than in the more stately or more formal places to which they have been removed. In fact, it may be questioned whether, notwithstanding the acknowledged improvements which have taken place in landscape gardening, occasionally somewhat of the peculiar beauty of a bona fide flower garden has not been sacrificed for picturesque effect. In many mansions there is little save shrubbery and nursery, the former scarcely affording the idea of a garden, while the latter is rendered hideous by the constant intersection of ugly buildings. Our bachelor contrives to unite the *utile* with the *dulci*; even his forcing houses are picturesque; his parterres are always one flush of bloom, the awnings which screen many from the sun, adding to, rather than diminishing, the effect of the whole. The cottage partakes of the neatness of the garden; rare creepers clamber to the very chimnies, every portion of the outside is covered with trellis, and the interior is a perfect conservatory; various are the hints which he receives that such a paradise requires nothing but a mistress.

Both these gentlemen entertain a friendly feeling towards the ladies, but nothing more; they are willing to serve them upon fitting occasions, and are not altogether insensible to the charm which their presence bestows; but they by no means desire female interference in their domestic concerns, and have quite cares enough upon their hands, without requiring those of a family. In fact, there never can be a lack of excitement in the pursuits of either; each makes himself useful in his generation, contributing his full quota both to the happiness and the well-being of his fellows.

The town bachelor, of a similar grade, is a very inferior being—thoroughly and altogether selfish, not always perfectly respectable; for, if avoiding acts which would render his acquaintances shy of him, he is guilty of many meannesses, the inevitable consequences of the position he has chosen. The place of his abode is a secret known only to his laundress; he belongs to

a club where his letters and cards are left, and where he is to be found at certain hours. He dresses well, and his tailor's bill forms the heaviest item in his expenses. The business of his life is to procure invitations, and to get taken about to places of public resort in other people's carriages. He is often fagged to death with merely walking from party to party; but he more frequently gets a corner in a dowager's coach, or a seat in some good-natured friend's cab. He is more in the society of women than that of men; his male associates, by whom he cannot always get franked, having more money than himself, and being fond of making up parties in which every one is expected to pay his share. With the ladies the case is different; they provide the dinners at pic-nics; an invitation to supper is always at their own houses, and their society is much less expensive. Sometimes, however, ladies who have entertained single gentlemen at their tables during a whole season, expect them to take a ticket to some concert which they patronise. The gentleman with the small income, and the large acquaintance, notwithstanding all his obligations, generally contrives to excuse himself: he has a very particular engagement, or has been obliged to take so many benefit tickets during the season, that his purse is exhausted. The lady, despairing of being able to dispose of them in any other manner, offers to give them away; they are then eagerly accepted, and, lounging into the concert-room, he gives himself credit for being a patron, and makes his appearance there an excuse for declining to relieve some other friend from the burthen of a dozen or two, which she is in like manner compelled to bestow gratis. Some of these bachelors have no aim or object beyond the *entrée* to hospitable mansions; they would not refuse a good offer, should it be made to them by some personable woman with plenty of money, but they do not lay themselves out for matrimonial speculations. These are the persons who keep their position in society best. If they are known to be the younger brothers of respectable families, with small but certain incomes, they obtain a permanent footing into many houses which would be shut to mere adventurers, however plausible. They get into the dinner line, by far the best way of business, for evening parties are sure to follow; whereas a man may be for ever at routs and balls without receiving an invitation to dinner once in six weeks. None of the young women ever think of falling in love with these men; they dance with them when there is no one better at hand, and are glad of their escort sometimes to places to which it is inconvenient to go without a male attendant; but even when they make an effort to be insinuating, there is always some manifest token of the inherent meanness of the mind, which acts as a repellent.

These men value their acquaintance only on account of the advantage which they themselves derive from them; they are civil only in proportion to what they expect to gain; but they are thankful for every thing, let the donation be ever so small—a ticket for the Zoological Gardens, for which, of course, they do not subscribe, or an introduction to some good feeder upon the eve of a party. They think that people who are much out in society, though they may not entertain at their own houses, are worth cultivating, at least to a certain extent; and having an eye constantly upon their own interests, they lose nothing which promises to promote them in the slightest degree. Excepting being always at every body's service, who wants a corner of a table filled up, they are not usually useful; for, with apparently nothing to do, they have a great deal upon their hands, in the petty negotiations by which all their affairs are managed. They have always a prodigious number of

calls to make, and will lag for hours to get admittance to some fête, to which they arrive tired to death, and vexed at being obliged to pay for a hack cab, in order to preserve the purity of their garments, with the prospect of being left to get back to town the best way they can, at one or two o'clock in the morning. This catastrophe does sometimes happen, malgré all their attempts to get a cab; and they crawl home to their miserable attic, fatigued in body and mind, but quite ready to encounter the same risks on the following day, for the same object. Fortune-hunters take better during the first season or two; that is, they excite warmer feelings in the bosoms of their acquaintance; but the reaction is very unfavourable, for, when found out, they become contemptible. However studiously they may endeavour to conceal their views, they cannot long remain a secret; there is always something mysterious about them, which creates suspicion; and as it is necessary, in order to promote their interests, that they should be very assiduous in their attentions to some lady having the reputation of wealth, a discovery is speedily made. Were an accurate list to be drawn out of the spinsters and widows possessed of considerable property, continuing in single blessedness, year after year, in their residences in the western parishes of London, greater credit for prudence would be given to the sex than the world seems now inclined to allow. There are always numbers of well-dowered, unencumbered ladies, to be met with in society, comparatively few of whom fall a prey to the designing of the masculine creation. Baffled fortune-hunters, returning season after season to the pursuit, form a common spectacle to the lookers-on in society, and their attempts and failures afford considerable amusement. It is easy to get rid of the conversation of a person of this class, by mentioning some lady, a stranger to him, who is supposed to be rich; he loses no time in seeking an introduction—all managing the affair with more or less tact, according to their several capacities. Some make the most daring and barefaced advances, particularly if the lady be old, ugly, or a little out of the perpendicular. In these cases, men who have scarcely wherewithal to make a decent figure in society, and who have neither talent nor industry for the improvement of their condition, fancy that they cannot fail to be acceptable. The ladies, probably, are sufficiently weak to be pleased with attentions which vanity imputes to a flattering motive, and only discover the true one when an offer is hazarded. Some women there are, who, upon a few hundreds a-year, contrive to obtain a reputation for wealth; though they may not desire to inveigle gentlemen into matrimony, they are anxious to secure admirers, and to show the world, that, notwithstanding the flight of youth and bloom, it is still in their power to attract. Such women are usually surrounded by fortune-hunters. Those amongst this set of dangles who have something to offer—a title, perchance, divided from the estate which should keep it up, good connections, or a handsome person—withdraw when they find out that there is only a slender revenue in the background. But the more desperate sort, men who keep up an appearance upon little or nothing, are very apt to propose. These gentry, though they may absolutely have forced their attentions upon the object of their pursuit, consider themselves to be very ill used by a refusal; repeated disappointments appear to have no effect upon their perseverance; they are ready to try their fortune again, upon the next occasion. Where they dispose of themselves during part of the year, is known only to a few; but they reappear at the commencement of the season, as regularly as the snow, to enact the same part, and generally with the same results.

#### STATE OF THE ARTS IN REFERENCE TO MANUFACTURES.

##### SECOND ARTICLE.

**RESUMING** our gleanings from the minutes of evidence before the Select Committee of the House of Commons on Arts and Manufactures, the first point that attracts our attention is the complaint uniformly made by the witnesses, of the impossibility of protecting patterns from being pirated in this country, according to the present defective law of copyright. This, it appears, is a chief cause of the poor taste in most kinds of designs. The evidence of Mr J. Jobson Smith, of the firm of Stewart, Smith, and Company, founders of iron articles of an ornamental description at Sheffield, is as follows:—

"Have you occasion to have models made to a great extent?—We expend about £1,500 a-year in the production of models of this kind for stoves and fenders alone.—[Witness produced a model of a stove front.]

In those works of art, how far is the inventor protected?—There is no protection at all; we have sent out such a thing as that on Monday morning, and it has been to Manchester, back again to Sheffield, and copied and returned to Manchester, before Saturday night. The model which I am now speaking of cost us £50 for men's labour.

Is the copy as good as your original work?—It is not; but they sell them so much cheaper, because they pay nothing for the production.

This of course is great injustice, and serious loss to the persons that invent the designs?—It is so great a

loss, that we shall give up continuing it; I suppose that more than one-half of the patterns for stove-grates and fenders used in England have originated with us, but the piracy has come to such an extent, that, unless there is some protection, we must give it up altogether.

What would you suggest as a protection?—I should suggest some place, such as the National Gallery or Somerset House, where those things should be registered and some mark put upon them, such as the royal cipher or crown, denoting the registry, and a protection given for a certain time, three years perhaps.

What are the class of artists that you employ for the production of patterns?—Some artists in London have been employed to make patterns for this description of goods. The young man that made this which I have produced, has had no education in the art; he has studied from nature altogether, and this is a specimen of his production; he has risen so as to have the reputation of being the first in the trade.

Is he a person of considerable natural talent?—So much so that we have given him a share in the business on account of his natural talent.

Are those models drawn upon paper?—Yes; and if we were to confine ourselves to publishing them on paper, the law would give us a title to protection for them; but as soon as we bring them out in the form of a manufactured article, we lose all right and title.

Are there several artists in Sheffield capable of producing such models as these?—There are several.

Have they increased of late years?—No.

Do they get tolerable wages?—They do not get very good wages, because the manufacturers in the neighbourhood so depend upon piracy, that they do not employ them; but if protection were afforded them, each manufacturer would be forced to employ an artist.

You think that if art were better protected in this country, there would be a greater demand for beautiful designs?—There would, because the general taste is so much better than it was, that very superior things are now in demand.

To what do you attribute the improvement in the public taste?—I have sometimes attributed it to the fact of there being so many fine models in plaster for the external and internal decorations of rooms, by which means they have become better spread.

What can an artist obtain per week, by devoting his time to the production of models in Sheffield?—About £3 or £4, if he is a clever man.

It is then the best paid labour?—It is.

How many artists do you suppose in Sheffield are solely employed in producing models? Not above four.—Have they been all successful? One of them has not been very successful.

Do not you think the public taste is so much improved that encouragement would be found for the production of articles more and more beautiful?—We find that we cannot produce articles too expensive for the public taste of the present day. Could we employ artists of a higher character, I am satisfied that the public would buy whatever was produced.

You think that cost would be no barrier to the sale of beautiful articles of art?—No; I should not myself hesitate in expending £200 or £300 in the production of a model for a grate to-morrow, if I had protection for it; but now it is certain that every thing worth pirating is pirated in three months; many things that are very good are pirated in fourteen days after the time of their production.

As the taste is perpetually varying, how long would you conceive a sufficient protection to a pattern?—I think three years would be the least. The custom of the manufacturers of those things is to visit their correspondents once in six months, and it frequently happens that there is some reason for not having a new thing at the time, and it is frequently a twelve-month before a pattern comes fairly before the public. I think we should have a protection for three years.

Unless you give rather a long period to the protection of a design, is not the effect of it to allow only a man of large capital to reap the advantage from the protection, because he only can put out a sufficient quantity of the pattern to remunerate himself?—Yes; every person to produce things of this kind must keep an extensive establishment about him. Besides the payment of the designer and the modeller, there must be workmen, who get high wages after they have been designed and modelled.

Do not you think, that if there was not the facility of copying that now exists, any new invention would be more slowly promulgated through the people?—We visit every town in England twice a-year, and therefore the whole country has an opportunity of having those things if they please. The fact is, that instead of each house making designs for itself, or each employing an artist competing with the artist of another house, there are not above two or three now producing models for the whole of the kingdom.

The very simple and satisfactory manner in which rights to patterns is protected in France, is thus described in the evidence of Dr Bowring:—"The question of copyright of patterns is one of great importance; for though in some parts of Europe an opinion prevails that the interests of manufactures are most advanced by want of protection, and a recognition of every body's right to avail himself of the inventions of others, in France, certainly, the opposite opinion is almost universal, and there is a great deal of legislation existing, the object of which is the protection of copyright. The Penal Code recognises the right of every inventor to the protection of his patterns or

other inventions, even though he should not be protected by patent, and provides that a penalty of not less than 100 francs, and not more than 2000, shall be levied on any individual who violates the copyright of another; and it also provides, that a fine of not less than 25 francs, nor more than 500 francs, should be levied on any individual who sells a pirated article.

What is the French term for copyright?—I recollect none but the general term *propriété*, or property. The invasion of that property by the piracy of a patent, mark, or pattern, is called a *contrefaçon*, or forgery, and the invader is denominated a *contrefaiteur*, or forger. The law also provides for the confiscation of all pirated copyright, whether of patents or otherwise; also all plates, moulds, and matrices, which have been pirated. Formerly the application of this law was left to the ordinary tribunals, but it was found that that machinery was too cumbrous and expensive, as is the fact at this moment in England, and a local tribunal now exists in most of the manufacturing towns in France, to which all questions of copyright are referred. That tribunal is called the *Conseil de Prud'hommes* [or Council of Honest Men]; it is composed of an equal number of manufacturers and workmen, plus one manufacturer, who is the president of the tribunal; and this tribunal decides every question of manufacturing interest.

Will you give a list of the trades which are subjected to the authority of the *Conseil de Prud'hommes*?—The following are the principal trades which are made responsible to the *Conseil*: manufacturers and operatives in silk, cotton, woollen, hair, flax, hemp, manufacturers and operatives in steel, iron, silver, and silver plate, gold, copper and bronze, pins, needles, fire-arms, scales, jewels, buttons, cutlery, tin plate, hardware, wax, and tallow; manufacturers and operatives in hosiery, earthenware, glass, paper, starch, whitelead and chemicals, &c.; fullers, dyers, calenderers, carders, enamellers, fan-makers, cork-cutters, perfumery-makers, comb-makers, plumbers, turners, tanners, curriers, boot and shoemakers, coopers, shipwrights and sail-makers, smiths, printers, instrument-makers, musical string-makers, leather-dressers, tailors, chocolate-makers, and mechanics of all descriptions.

Those trades come under the jurisdiction of the *Conseil de Prud'hommes*; what is the nature of that institution?—That institution is charged with the settlement of all manufacturing questions. It is really a tribunal of conciliation, against whose decision there is an appeal in certain cases. It has a power of fine and of imprisonment. All questions of the 'marks' which any manufacturer chooses to adopt to designate his wares, and all questions of patent and copyright, are referred to it.

And has the *Conseil de Prud'hommes* jurisdiction over patterns?—Yes, the *Conseil de Prud'hommes* has jurisdiction over three descriptions of manufacturing property—over patents, over 'marks,' where 'marks' are violated, and over patterns. The *Conseil de Prud'hommes* being an economical tribunal, the patentee would have recourse to it rather than to the higher and more costly tribunals.

Does a French patent, taken out for five years, come under the jurisdiction of this court?—Certainly.

Or for ten years?—Yes; any man may use this minor tribunal if he prefer it. The *Conseil de Prud'hommes* is, as I mentioned, a tribunal which decides on the violation of patents of marks and patterns employed, or claimed by a given manufacturer.

Then it is at once a legal and an equitable tribunal?—It is. Many of the manufacturers of France, as those of hardware and cutlery, are authorised to employ a 'mark,' and on their registering that 'mark' at the *Greffé* of the Council, they get an exclusive title to its use; and the person who employs surreptitiously the mark or device of another, is not only responsible for the consequences and the losses, but is considered by the French law as a forger, and subject to the penalties which apply to the forgery of handwriting. A 'mark' is deemed a property, if a manufacturer choose to have it so recorded, and can give evidence from the books of the Council of his priority of inscription; and the *Conseil de Prud'hommes* are judges as to whether the imitation of the 'mark' is a violation of the property. In case of appeal, the tribunals of commerce overrule the decisions of the *Conseil de Prud'hommes*. With respect to patterns, the law recognises equally, as in the case of patents, the right of property; and the decree of 1826, by which the *Conseil de Prud'hommes* is established at Lyons, specially invests that tribunal with the preservation of the property of drawings and patterns, and requires that any manufacturer who wishes to obtain security for a pattern, shall deposit his pattern under an envelope, with his seal and his signature; and to this packet shall be attached the seal of the *Conseil de Prud'hommes*: that a register shall be kept of all such inscriptions or claims to copyright, and that the manufacturer applying shall receive from the *Conseil* a certificate stating the date when he deposited his pattern; that in case of dispute with respect to the copyright of a pattern, the register in the archives of the *Conseil* shall be taken as sufficient evidence of the priority of date when the pattern is deposited; the manufacturer shall declare for how long he desires the copyright should be possessed by him, whether for one, three, or five years, or in perpetuity. I wish to mention as a fact, showing not only the activity of this *Conseil*, but its popularity, that in the year 1835, 3835 cases were decided by the *Conseil de Prud'*



hommes at Lyons, of which 3680 were terminated by their intervention, and only 152 appeals were made against their decision, that is to say, one case in thirty-four. These cases comprise all the questions of every sort between manufacturers and operatives; not questions of copyright alone, but of every species of misunderstanding.

How many persons compose the tribunal?—The number is various; I think there are some Conseils in which there are not more than nine, and I believe that in others there are as many as twenty-five.

Is there a different tribunal made for each trade?—No; but in case of any difficulty, the tribunal has authority to nominate Experts, individuals who are well informed on the particular subject of inquiry. They examine and report to the tribunal. For example, manufacturers and workmen connected with a special manufactory would be called in in cases where that manufactory was the subject of contestation.

Then in a town like Lyons, where would be for the year one unchanged tribunal, probably before whom such questions connected with trade would come?—Yes; a portion of the tribunal is submitted to annual election; the manufacturing portion is elected by all the manufacturers who pay for *patentes*, which are in France a manufacturing or trading licence. The workmen at Lyons are elected among those who possess a certain number of looms. In the organisation of these tribunals a great deal depends upon local circumstances, and the importance of particular trades. In towns where there are various manufacturers, a provision is made by the organic statute, that there shall be in the tribunal so many individuals representing a particular trade. In the town, for instance, of St Etienne, where there is a large manufacture of silk ribbons, and also a large manufacture of arms, hardware and cutlery, it is provided that there shall be in the Conseil a certain number of silk manufacturers and a certain number of hardware manufacturers; so in any town where the manufacture is one of cotton, there the ordinance provides that there shall be a certain number of persons connected with this particular manufacture. At Rouen, for example, the Council is composed of fifteen persons; five to be chosen among the manufacturers of cottons, linens, or silks; two among spinners or machine-makers; two among manufacturers of woollens; two among dyers, bleachers, finishers, chemists, refiners of sulphur or other similar articles; two among printers of cottons or paper; one among earthenware, pottery, tile or brick manufacturers, or metal founders; and one among soap-makers, tanners or candle manufacturers. The fee for a certificate of registration of patterns is three francs; and the fee for summoning any party to the tribunal is one franc and twenty-five cents. The fee is two francs for the announcement of a judgment, and the tribunal grants to any witness the amount of one day's labour.—The costs of a process are paid by the parties losing the cause.

We shall be glad to hear that Councils similarly constituted are to be established in Great Britain. We are afraid, however, that there is little chance of so simple and unexpensive a system being brought into operation. It is nevertheless proper that the people should be made acquainted with the practice as it now exists on the Continent.

#### COUNT BENYOWSKY.

THIS remarkable man was descended from a noble and ancient family in Hungary. He was born in the year 1741, and, like other young men of his rank and nation, was educated at the court of Vienna, in a manner befitting his high expectations. On arriving at manhood, he was sent for by his uncle, a Polish magnate, who named him heir to considerable possessions in Lithuania. While he was thus made master of one estate, however, young Benyowsky had the misfortune to be deprived of another. During his absence in Lithuania, his father died, and the patrimonial property in Hungary was seized by some ambitious relations. The endeavours which our hero instantly made to recover his rights, were represented in the light of rebellion to the court of Vienna by his usurping kinsmen, who by these artful means got themselves permanently established in the lands so unjustly appropriated. Benyowsky, after many fruitless protests, was obliged to retire to his Polish possessions.

After establishing these estates in proper hands, the count evinced his love of a stirring life by travelling to England, Holland, and other commercial countries, where he acquired considerable knowledge of navigation, and other branches of practical science. From these pursuits he was recalled by letters from the magnates of Poland, who were then organising that great struggle for their country's liberation, which ended in rivetting her chains only the closer. Benyowsky at once joined the confederation; and when the war broke out in 1768, although he had united himself a short time before to an amiable lady, he left his home, and followed the confederate banner.

The count, during the two years' war that ensued, showed no mean military talents; and, when the unhappy termination arrived, he was made prisoner by the Russians, after receiving seventeen wounds. He was subsequently conveyed from one prison to another, and at last was sent, loaded with fetters, to the grave of Polish liberty, Siberia. On the 20th of January 1770, Benyowsky, with five fellow captives, was brought to Tobolsk, where the governor, a humane

man, pitied and relieved their miseries. Tobolsk, however, distant as it was from friends and foes, was not the abode destined for the prisoners. As if to put them without the pale of civilised humanity, they were ordered to Kamchatka. The course of their travel to this distant point was not without interest. The treatment of the captives depended much on the governors of the several towns which lay in the route, and also upon their conductors, who were generally Cossacks, but were frequently changed. Every town contained some captives; and Ochock, a small coast town, contained no less than nine hundred. From this port the exiles were conveyed by sea to Kamchatka.

Though Benyowsky's companions were all men of rank, his talents and adventurous spirit had already made him be regarded as their leader. He had a striking countenance and figure, and when the official who received them at Kamchatka, tempted by curiosity, asked the count who he was, the captive replied, "a soldier, once a general, now a slave!" The effect of his manners and aspect may be conceived from the fact, that, in the first conversation which he held with the captives whom he found resident there, they with one voice declared him their leader and chief. These old captives told the new comers that their life was one of privations and misery. Benyowsky and his friends, however, were received with civility by the governor, M. Nilow, and the secretary, Sudeikyn, who told them that their exiled life was to be conducted on the following terms:—"Three days' meat given to them, after which they maintained themselves by the aid of a musket to each, one pound of powder, four of lead, a lance, several knives, and other tools, with which they might construct cabins within one league of the town; freedom of person, under certain restrictions; one day's work in the week given to the government; and a fixed number of skins annually brought to the chancery. After the arms and provisions were given to Benyowsky's party, the captives in the place carried the new comers to their cabins, which formed a small village separate from the Russian town. The count found the exiles to amount in number to twenty-three men, with as many women residing with them. An exile of the name of Crustien was soon discovered by the count to be the man of most authority in the little settlement of exiles. Some excessively cruel laws existed respecting these unfortunate. They could amass no property; hence a soldier could carry away from their cabins any thing he pleased, and frequently did so; an exile striking a freeman was starved to death, and so on.

Benyowsky, on the second day of his stay, organised the captives into a body, was formally appointed chief, and drew up laws for their comfort, and for furthering their escape from slavery. The governor, a few days after, being informed of the count's skill as a linguist, appointed him teacher to his son and three daughters, in consideration of which, our hero was exempted from all other work, and received a decent subsistence. An accident revealed on the same day his skill at chess to the general, or nettman, of the garrison, and the count carried so much money to his fellow captives, that they looked up to him as a superior being. His rank and title no doubt assisted in removing the prejudices of the great men of the town against slaves, and in a short time he stood more on the footing of a friend and equal than a prisoner. He was admitted to all their parties, and public meetings. But he was a slave! The thought rankled in his bosom, and he returned to the cabins of his fellow-exiles, to brood over plans of escape. His favour, in the mean time, with the governor was of much use to his friends, who were by it raised to a degree even of equality with the freemen of the place.

It is unnecessary to enter into a detail of all the circumstances which occurred during the year that elapsed before Benyowsky had matured his plans. The daughter of the governor fell in love with him, and the count, to further his objects, seemingly returned her affection. Partly to favour this match, and partly on account of our hero's discovery of a plot, the governor in council pronounced him a free man. Many were the dangers this adventurous being encountered at this time, some brought on by his success in chess-playing, others by treachery among the exiles themselves, and others by rivalry in love. His bold heart and his ready wit surmounted them all. To the last he continued in high favour with the Russian officials, and kept his post as chief and soul of the exiled party.

In the month of April 1771, however, the governor and his colleagues were apprised with certainty that the exiles meditated an escape. This was a source of no little alarm, not only on account of Benyowsky's abilities, but because he had contrived to bring over to his schemes many of the residents of Kamchatka, who had been long before declared free, and had thus rendered his confederacy strong in numbers and means. The revolt broke out on an attempt made by the governor to gain possession of the count's person. Not only did our hero avoid this danger, but by a sudden display of courage and conduct, he mastered the garrison, and planted on the walls of the fort the flag of Poland. In the struggle, however, the governor was slain; a circumstance which Benyowsky lamented much. The Russians without the fort made a show of besieging the victors, but the count, having their wives and children at his mercy, speedily brought the besiegers to terms. No opposition to his departure with his party was afterwards offered.

On the 11th of May, Count Benyowsky, with ninety-five companions, of whom nine were women, sailed from Kamchatka, in the corvette St Peter and St Paul, which the confederates had seized. Amongst the women was the late governor's daughter, Athanasia Nilow, who, although she knew some time previously of the count's marriage in Europe, yet preferred to accompany him as a friend and daughter, since she could not be attached to him in another capacity. This young lady unfortunately died shortly after the expedition sailed.

The dangerous and ungovernable nature of several of the count's associates, not only caused him, in the early part of the voyage, to roam from one place to another, as if without an object, but placed his life itself in continual jeopardy. His prudence and undaunted spirit rendered every attempt ineffectual, which jealousy of his ascendancy could dictate. The voyagers, after courting about among the islands on the American shore, at last stood across the Northern Pacific for Japan. Near the Japan shores they found an uninhabited island, which supplied them with fruits, wild-fowl, hogs, and other provisions, of which they stood much in need. It was with great difficulty that Benyowsky could prevail upon his crew to leave this place, and steer for Japan. At the latter country, after a day or two's sail, they arrived, and were well received by the governor of the port where they landed. Some suspicious circumstances, however, soon occurred, which induced the count again to put to sea. In quest of supplies he touched at Formosa and other islands, where he underwent strange adventures. He assisted one prince against another, and in fact performed that part which was the likeliest his real condition, namely, the part of a knight-errant. On the 22d of September, he reached the port of Macao in China, where he excited no small stir among the French and English agents for the India commerce of these nations. The romantic character of his escape, situation, and adventures, were not the only points that attracted attention to him. It was understood that in the course of his voyage he had made valuable observations respecting the colonisation of the Northern Pacific Islands, and other matters of importance. This was partly true, as memorials drawn up by him, and still in existence, testify. The count's object in negotiating with the agents from Europe was to obtain a passage home, where he might communicate with the French or English governments, and return in a condition to establish prosperous settlements. With the French agent he ultimately concluded a convention to some such effect, and embarked with his people in two vessels bound for L'Orient. He had previously disposed of his own vessel, and found himself, after paying all claims, to have nothing in the world.

The French ships sailed on the 14th of January from Macao, and after touching at Mauritius and Madagascar, landed the count and his party safely, on the 18th of July 1772, in France. Benyowsky immediately sent his colonisation offers to the French government, who invited him to Paris, and held many consultations with him. His wife also arrived from Hungary, and joined him after their long separation. His only child was dead.

The French government declined any endeavour to establish commercial colonies at Formosa or any other quarter in the Northern Asiatic Seas, but they proposed to Benyowsky to form an establishment on the island of Madagascar upon the count's plan. This our hero, after the adjustment of preliminaries, gave his consent to; and, indeed, such was the enterprising genius of the man, any scheme that held out the prospect of active employment to his restless genius, was sure of his concurrence. A body of troops, termed the Volunteers of Benyowsky, was raised to accompany him; and in March 1773, the count set sail for the Isle of France, where his soldiers had been sent before him. Some months were spent in preparatory business in this island, the settlers of which regarded the enterprise with jealousy. In February 1774, however, Benyowsky and his companions were in Madagascar.

The locality chosen for the colony was on the fine Bay of Antongill, in the mouth of the river Fingballe. Here a regular town was built, and every attempt made to further the progress of the settlement. It is impossible, however, to give any clear view of the proceedings of the colony during the two years that followed. Wars with the natives, undertakings of every kind, sufferings, and privations, fill up this page of Benyowsky's history. He, as usual, seemed born to live only in an element of storm and trouble. Nothing daunted him for a moment, but we can scarcely wonder that the government, which had expended £50,000 in the foundation of the colony, should have been anxious for some return. The circumstances in which the count and his settlement were placed, without attributing any blame to him, rendered the hope of return abortive. When the court of France discovered this, commissioners were sent out to examine the state of the colony, and investigate into the count's conduct. In the end of the year 1776, these commissioners arrived.

Instead of the disgrace which it was expected would accrue to our hero from the arrival of the commissioners, their coming was the signal for his elevation to the highest point which he attained to in his variable and adventurous career. He treated the messengers from France with scrupulous politeness, replied ably and plausibly, if not satisfactorily, to all their questions, and then—declaring his honour deeply injured by the

suspicious evidently entertained of him—he resigned his post as chief servant of the king of France in Madagascar. The consequences of this step were no doubt foreseen by the quick-eyed count. Those native chiefs and princes whom he had spent a year and a half in conciliating, cared nothing for the distant king of France; it was Benyowsky from whom they had received presents and favours; it was he whom they looked up to as the great and wise chief. A great assembly, accordingly, of the princes of the island, was held near the spot to which the count had retired on his resignation; and at this meeting, one of the chiefs called to the remembrance of his brethren the ancient glory of the island under the dominion of one supreme prince, and announced to them that Count Benyowsky was a descendant from the race of Ramini, in which line the royal power had been established. The meeting of chiefs unanimously resolved in the end to offer the supreme power to the count.

Whether Benyowsky had artfully insinuated this idea about the race of Ramini into the minds of the chiefs, or whether they only affected, as a matter of policy, to believe it, it is impossible to decide. The count, however, supported the belief, and made his appearance in the full native dress at a great assemblage of the nation, where he addressed them as a son of Ramini, and was, with much solemnity, installed Supreme Chief of all Madagascar.

Arrived at this lofty position, the indefatigable count saw, that, without the commercial help of some European nation, his subjects would neither be readily civilised, nor would his own position be fixed or secure. Aid from France was now out of the question; he therefore at once resolved to visit Europe again, and attempt to form a lasting connection with Britain, or some other commercial state. Having, with the activity and talent that distinguished him, drawn up a constitution and plans of government to be followed in his absence, he put his resolution into effect in November 1766. On landing in Europe, he immediately transmitted an offer of commercial alliance to the British court. All offers and entreaties were vain. For seven years did Benyowsky wander from place to place, endeavouring in vain to engage either public or private men in his plans. At last, in April 1784, he obtained goods in London to the amount of £4000, and with these he set sail for the North American states, thinking that commercial enterprise would be keener there. He was so far right; a respectable firm in Virginia gave him a vessel and goods to the amount of £4000 more, on condition of repayment in Madagascar skins and produce. Benyowsky, thus provided, after a stormy passage reached the shores of promise after an absence of eight years.

He reached them only to perish miserably. Having landed with a number of his followers, the count was deserted by those whom he had left in the vessel. These men carried the ship to Oibo, and sold it, giving out that the count, on landing at Madagascar, had been immediately murdered by the natives. This was either a falsehood or a mistake. It has been established, that the natives acknowledged Benyowsky at once, and that his influence over them was so great, that he had a great armed force at command, with which he attacked and mastered the French settlement. The consequence of this was the arrival of a French frigate from the Isle of France, with a body of regulars on board. These soldiers disembarked, and attacked the count on the 23d of May 1786. At the first fire, Benyowsky, at the head of his men, received a ball in his right breast, and fell dead on the spot. Deprived of his guidance, the blacks speedily submitted.

Thus fell, at the age of forty-five, a man of invincible spirit and of undoubted talents, which, added to a gift of eloquence, winning manners, and a bodily frame at once powerful and elegant, rendered him the beau-ideal of a roving chief or adventurer, if, indeed, they did not qualify him for much higher things. We have avoided canvassing his motives for his various actions, because the relation of them is in general drawn from his own memoirs. Looking at his life impartially, it cannot, we think, be doubted that Benyowsky was a being, who, had he not been exiled, would have played a distinguished part, either for good or for evil, on the European stage.

#### SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVING THE CURING OF COD AND LING FISH.

[From a recently established newspaper, entitled "The Shetland Journal," published monthly in London, for circulation in the Shetland Islands.]

SPAIN presents a good and a very extensive market for dried cod and ling fish, and at one period the Shetland fish had the preference there to all others. From the defective manner of curing, however, which has prevailed for some time past in Shetland, and the improvement in this process which has been made in other places, the Shetland fish has become absolutely unfit for the Spanish markets. To remedy this, must surely be worth the attention both of fishermen and curers, and in fulfilment of one of the chief purposes for which the Shetland Journal has been established, the promotion of local improvements, we shall give some information on the manner in which fish ought to be cured, in order to render it fit for the Spanish market.

The principal defects in the Shetland curing are, 1st, Want of sufficient attention to the cleaning of the fish, bits of gut being allowed to remain, and the interior membrane, or, to speak in our own dialect, the

black striffin, left in the lugs of the fish. 2d, Overloading the fish with salt. 3d, Not sufficiently drying it.

The remedies are obvious—more careful cleaning, less salting, and better drying. To cure fish well, there should be a tolerably large quantity cured at one station. Less salt should be used, and it is considered, that if, instead of the common Liverpool salt, a portion at least of Lisbon, St Ubes, or Cadiz salt, were used, it would be found a great improvement, as, from the greater strength, a much less quantity would be required to preserve the fish. The fish would thus not be so liable to give. It would not show so much of the salt, but exhibit that clean, yellow, and transparent appearance which is held so much in esteem by the Spaniards. On the coast of Yorkshire, where the curing of ling and cod has been brought to greater perfection than at any other station in the kingdom, the method of drying is pretty nearly the same as that followed in Shetland, with this addition:—After the fish has been dried to that degree, or rather more, which we shall call thoroughly dried, and fit for housing or shipping, it is put up into one large pile, and left to stand for ten or twelve days, which is called sweating it. It is then opened out, carefully sorted, and the fish again exposed to the sun and air, for a longer or shorter period, as may be found requisite from the degree in which the different fish may have given or sweated, and thus the whole parcel becomes thoroughly and evenly cured.

In Spain, every cargo or parcel of fish is, on landing, assorted into three classes, namely—1st, Mercante, or merchantable. 2d, Medianillo, or middling. 3d, Roto, or broken and inferior.

The proportions which the prices of these classes bear to each other, are as 30, 20, and 10. In a cargo of Yorkshire fish, the proportion of the first class is generally about three-fourths of the whole. In a cargo of Shetland fish, the proportion has seldom exceeded one-fourth. Hence the advantage of superior curing for that market is obvious. That a loss of weight is incurred by the fish being more highly dried, we are aware, and also admit that the curer who may cure his fish in the manner we have pointed out, is entitled to a better price than he who cures it in the inferior manner in which it is now done. Nor need he doubt of obtaining it. The system of current prices for all qualities, we prophesy, will soon be broken up.

#### IMITATIONS AND COINCIDENCES.

AT this age of the world, it is a hard and a harsh matter to accuse any writer of borrowing the thoughts, images, or language of his predecessors. If we consider how many workers there have been in the fields of literature since "the first poet sang," and the first philosopher spoke, and if we reflect that nature and truth, the high objects of man's observation and research, are things immutable and eternal, we ought to be as little surprised to find them exciting the same ideas, and described in the same language, as we are to behold the blue sky, the golden moon, the green-tinted earth, or the foam-tipped wave, presented on the canvass of one painter in the same hues with which they have been clothed by another. The subject, in both cases, is ever one and the same, and the figuring forth, if true, must be also the same.

We might present many other though minor reasons, were it necessary, for absolutely expecting, that, in the written wisdom of the world, whether the record be in prose or rhyme, there should be strong and numerous similarities between the contributions of one man to the general store, and those of another; but we shall content ourselves with alluding only to one, which appears to us to be allowed too little of the weight which it is entitled to. What is the training which the mind of a young writer, a poet for example, undergoes? Does he not imbue his mind deeply with the beauties of those who have held the lyre before him? Does he not meditate night and day on the productions by which they have obtained the crown of never-fading laurel, which he hopes will one day bind his own brows? Can it be a matter of wonder, then, that those images, thoughts, and words, which have taken so deep a hold of his mind, should often give the prevailing tone to the effusions of his own genius? No! they become so inextricably mingled with his own feelings and mental operations, that they grow, as it were, into a part of himself, and it becomes to him a matter of difficulty to distinguish the sentiments which are truly his own, from those of the congenial models whom he has so long studied, loved, and admired.

While we present these reasons, or apologies for the coincidences of thought and expression frequently to be found in writers, and poets in especial, we at the same time must allow that there are often to be found similarities, which can go by no other name than that of imitations, or copyings. There is not much fault to be found with even this, provided the borrowing had been acknowledged. But very seldom is any acknowledgment of this kind made. It therefore becomes a matter of justice to trace out these borrowings, that honour may be given where honour is due; and, in cases again where the similarity is entirely accidental, it is an agreeable task to discover the models which have been peculiarly pleasing to the mind

of an author, who himself has pleased us. This is the purpose of our present paper, and, in executing it, we shall make use freely of the imitations and coincidences which D'Israeli and others have discovered in the writings of our country's poets; while, at the same time, we add other observations, which do not seem to have been yet made by others.

Of all our national poets, Gray, who has scarcely an equal among them in polish and chasteness of diction, is perhaps the one who has scrupled least to adopt a fine image, or a happy expression, from the stores of preceding writers; and in every instance where he has used this freedom, his exquisite taste has enabled him to give additional grace to the thought appropriated. In his "Bard," for example, occur these two lines,

Dear as the light that visits these sad eyes,

Dear as the ruddy drops that warm my heart,

which are simply an altered and scarcely improved version of Otway's lines in *Venice Preserved*,

Dear as the vital warmth that feeds my life,

Dear as these eyes that weep in fondness o'er thee.

In his *Ode to Spring*, Gray uses a striking expression, in alluding to the song of the nightingale:

The attic warbler pours her throat.

A commentator on the *Ode* finds, as he imagines, the origin of this phrase in two classic authors, the one of Greece and the other of Rome. Excellent scholar as Gray was, it is probable that he drew from a source much nearer home, since we find the expression in question in Pope's *Essay on Man*:

Is it for thee the linnet pours her throat?

The same commentator (*Wakefield*) censures Gray for certain expressions in the following lines, which occur in the *Ode to Adversity*:

Thou tamer of the human breast

Whose iron scourge and torturing hour

The bad afflict, afflict the best.

*Torturing hour* and *iron scourge* are the expressions censured as incongruous. On this D'Israeli observes, "it is curious to observe a verbal critic lecture such a poet as Gray! The poet probably would never have replied, or, in a moment of excessive urbanity, he might have condescended to point out to this minutest of critics the following passage in *Paradise Lost*:

When the scourge,

Inexorably, and the torturing hour

Calls us to penance."

Continuing our observations upon Gray, let us turn to his *Church-yard Elegy*, and examine, as far as we can, how much he was assisted by the labours of others in the composition of that beautiful piece, on which his fame chiefly rests, and which, compared with the temple-like structures reared by Milton and Spenser, may be regarded as an elegant and classic mausoleum. In the very first line of the *Elegy*,

The curfew tolls the knell of parting day,

a resemblance to some lines in Dante's *Purgatory* has been noticed. The lines, which we shall give with their context, for a reason to be immediately explained, are thus translated by Mr Carey:

It was the hour which wakens fond desire

In men at sea, and melts their thoughtful heart,

Who in the morn have bid sweet friends farewell,

And pilgrim newly on the road with love

Thrills, if he hear the vesper bell from far,

That seems to mourn for the departing day.

It is, of course, to the thought contained in the two last lines, that Gray's expression bears a resemblance; but we confess that we are inclined to think the similarity accidental, from the very small portion of Dante's fine passage to which it applies. What shall we say, however, to the following passage from another English poet?

Soft hour! which wakes the wish and melts the heart

Of those who sail the seas, on the first day

When they from their sweet friends are torn apart,

Or fills with love the pilgrim on his way,

As the far bell of vesper makes him start,

Seeming to weep the dying day's decay.—BYRON.

Let the reader compare these fine lines with those of Mr Carey, and we have no doubt that he will conclude with us, that the only difference between them is, that Byron has given us much the finer translation of Dante. Surely the imitation here ought to have been acknowledged, especially as the imitator is one who could so well have afforded to give every man his due.

To return to Gray for a moment, and then we shall have done with this pure and classical poet. The line,

And leaves the world to darkness and to me,

has been much admired. One very similar to it is to be found in the "Beggar's Petition,"

And leaves the world to wretchedness and me.

Another equally admired line,

Even in our ashes live their wonted fires,

sprung, possibly, from an expression of old Chaucer. The *Reve*, in his prologue, says of himself, and of old men,

For when we may not don, then will we spoken;

Yet in our ashes cold is fire reken.\*

Butler's ludicrous description of Hudibras's beard concludes with these words:

This hairy meteor did denounce

The fall of empires and of crowns.

It is impossible to say whether Gray had this passage in his eye in describing his fiery "Bard," who, before the eyes of the stern Edward, prophesied de-

\* For when we are impotent to act, then will we speak:—our ashes cold is fire raked up.



struction to the monarch's race, and "did denounce the fall of empires and of crowns." Whether he thought of Hudibras's beard, however, or not, it is a remarkable proof how closely the sublime approaches the ridiculous, to find Gray employing the very same image in depicting the hoary appendage of the bard's chin. It, he says,

*Streamed like a meteor to the troubled air.*

Passing for an instant from poets and their similarities, we may observe, that an axiom which we have just now quoted is perhaps the most remarkable example of *plagiarism* (we use the word advisedly) that exists. And who is the plagiarist? Napoleon! Wonderful, but true, as we shall prove. Napoleon is said to have given this axiom to the world—"Between the sublime and the ridiculous there is but one step." How often must every reader have met with such sayings as, "Bonaparte, that consummate judge of human nature, once remarked,"—or, "Napoleon, that accurate observer, on one occasion declared, that between the sublime," &c. Now, Napoleon has no more claim to paternity, with regard to this axiom, than we have. It belongs, with all the merit that may be attached to it, to Thomas Paine, who says, "the sublime and the ridiculous are often so nearly related, that it is difficult to class them separately. One step above the sublime makes the ridiculous, and one step above the ridiculous makes the sublime again."

Let us return now to the poets, of whom it has been said, whether ironically or not we cannot tell, that "imitation is their most important faculty." Some expressions have in truth been so frequently bandied about among them, that we might be almost justified in believing this, in its most equivocal sense. For example, in one of his satires, Oldham exclaims,

*On Butler who can think without just rage,  
The glory and the scandal of the age?*

Pope applies the same thought to another neglected genius:

*At length Erasmus, that great injured name,  
The glory of the yriethood and the shame!*

Next in order follows Young, with a more covert imitation of the idea:

*Of some for glory such the boundless rage  
That they're the blackest scandal of the age.*

Lord Byron concludes the roll:

*And Tasso is their glory and their shame.*

Truly, a few examples of such fourfold reiteration as this were enough to frighten any man from the office of critic, who is not conscious of having at his finger-ends the whole range of poetry. As this, however, is a consummation rather to be wished than otherwise, we may present another example of the same kind, where a peculiar epithet is the thing repeated. Wordsworth hath this beautiful line in one of his sonnets:

*The matted forests of Ontario's shore.*

"Matted! how expressive an epithet!" exclaims the reader, with the Sonnets to the Duddon in his hand for the first time; "an every-day poet would have had it 'stately,' or 'savage' forests, but a great genius gives you a new and striking epithet, which is in itself a picture! Matted forests!" repeats he then to himself, with delight. Some fine day, however, on turning over poor Goldsmith's works, he observes a line in "Sweet Auburn,"

*Those matted woods where birds forget to sing.*

"So! Oliver was before Wordsworth, then, with this choice adjective," he says. Another fine day, he chances to take up his Shakespeare, and lo! the Swan of Avon, whom no beauty in language or in nature has escaped—he is found to have sung of "matted forests" long ere Goldsmith or Wordsworth were born. Verily there is nothing new under the sun!

In Campbell's Pleasures of Hope, there is one line, which has probably been quoted more frequently than any other in the English language. That is,

*Like angel-visits, few and far between.*

In a review of the Pleasures of Hope, this fine thought was highly praised for its originality. That it did not originate with Mr Campbell, the reader will admit, we think, after having his attention called to the following passage in Blair's Grave:

*Its visits,*

*Like those of angels, short and far between.*

Justice compels us here to say, that not only is Blair entitled to the merit of the thought, but his expression of it also is much more perfect than his successor's. "Short" and "far between" are two distinct things, and each epithet, accordingly, has its separate meaning when applied to "visits," whereas "few and far between" approaches to direct tautology.

The same poet, whose productions none can regard with more admiration than we do, has some thoughts and expressions in his fine address to the "Rainbow," which resemble very nearly some portions of a little piece on the same subject, by an old and obscure bard, Henry Vaughan:

*When o'er the green unduged earth  
Heaven's covenant thou didst shine,  
How came the world's grey fathers forth  
To watch thy sacred sign!*

Vaughan has it,

*When Terah, Nahor, Haran, Abram, Lot,  
The youthful world's grey fathers in one knot,  
Did with intensive looks watch every hour  
For thy new light.*

But Mr Campbell, in this case, is like one who gives a brilliant polish and magnificent setting to gems,

which had been wrested, it is true, from the mine, but which had been left rough and unheeded as they were found.

Goldsmith has, in some other instances, got the credit of things that he was but second in. For instance, these often quoted lines,

*Man wants but little here below,  
Nor wants that little long.*

are unquestionably imitated, or rather copied, from Young, who says, in his Night Thoughts,

*Man wants but little, nor that little long.*

And another expression, admired for its simplicity,

*And tears began to flow,*

belongs properly to Dryden, in whose Alexander's Feast it occurs. Such an expression as this, had not Goldsmith been praised for it, while in another, and a predecessor, it remained unnoticed, might have fairly passed as an accidental coincidence; for such, after all, it probably was.

We have mentioned Blair as having afforded an idea to Campbell, and we have now to present a passage, in which he too has imitated a brother poet. In the Grave we find these lines,

*Sullen, like lamps in sepulchres, your shine  
Enlightens but yourselves.*

Pope, in his Elegy on an Unfortunate Young Lady, has this expression,

*Dim lights of life, that burn in length of years,  
Unseen, unseen, as lamps in sepulchres;*

which ran, it is probable, in Blair's mind, while composing the lines we have quoted.

The subject of Imitations and Coincidences is far from being yet exhausted. We must, however, defer its continuation till another opportunity, when we shall extend our range over many of the English poets, to whom no allusion has been made, as far as we have gone.

#### THOUGHTS ON COMMON-PLACE SUBJECTS.

##### NO IMPEDIMENTS.

THERE should be no impediments in the way of people going to see places which are opened for gratuitous inspection. The smallest possible impediment will in a great measure frustrate the whole scope and tendency of exhibitions of this description. This does not appear to be well understood, but the following example will explain our meaning:—There is a beautiful large hall at Edinburgh, the property of the nation, or which is kept open at the public expense, containing a collection of casts of the finest sculpture, both ancient and modern, besides other articles in the fine arts. This hall has for some time been thrown open to public inspection, on the plan of a National Gallery, or Louvre, but hardly any one visits it. We have never seen it, and most likely never will. The reason for this extraordinary disregard of the exhibition in question is simply this. It is open only on certain days of the week. The consequence is, that people cannot be troubled to ask on what days it is open; or if they learn what days, they cannot be troubled to keep them in remembrance. When a spare hour is at length obtained for visiting the place, one does not know but it may be shut, and, dreading to be disappointed, he does not go at all. In fact, if he live in town, he never goes. He never acquires stimulus enough to overcome the impediments. Thus the museum might as well not exist, or not be, as it is called, thrown open to the public. The same may be said of almost every exhibition of the same kind in the country. An individual of our acquaintance, who visited London three years ago, thrice went a considerable way to see the British Museum, and on each occasion found that he could obtain no admission: he was so much disgusted, that he resolved never to go again. It may be said that any one may fairly be expected to take a little trouble in order to see a thing really worth seeing; but this is of no consequence. Human nature is such that many will not, and the engagements of many are such that they cannot, overcome the impediments in question. Not only should there be no such impediments, but every means should be taken to facilitate the access of the public to the exhibition. The place should be in a thoroughfare, and its entrance in the very eye of the world, so that people may glide into it almost without intending it. By such a deference to public convenience, the obligation to the world, in the opening of a gratuitous show of any kind, is enhanced beyond calculation.

##### CHEAPNESS.

The principle of cheapness is yet but imperfectly understood or acted upon. Unless in the case of cheap printed sheets, it is scarcely any where fully developed. It appears somewhat remarkable that there should be such a lack of energy in carrying it into many of the ramifications of business. People complain of every thing being overdone, yet, by applying the principle of cheapness, where it may rationally be expected to operate, nothing is overdone. What, then, is this principle? It is the principle of making a small profit serve upon a great number—instead of a large profit upon a small number, which has hitherto been the practice in trade. It is certain that this principle cannot be made to act advantageously in every business; it is only in cases where a large number of customers are to be supplied, that it is available. Cheap as many things are, we venture to say that the principle we speak of, might be carried to a length infinitely greater than has al-

ready been calculated upon. To instance one thing—personal conveyance from place to place, whether by land or water. A great deal remains to be done in this department of our economy. This is the age of copper money—our silver and gold having been all spent a generation ago in pyrotechnical amusements—and we must needs therefore have penny and two-penny rides in coaches, and sails in steam-boats, instead of shilling and half-crown ones. A rather powerful attempt has been made to establish sixpence as a good easy come-at-able sum in omnibussing and railway-vehicleing, but it is obviously untenable. Sooner or later, down the demand must come to at most a third of that charge. And then what a prodigious increase of custom there will be! Not ten for one, but thousands for one. We wonder that some clever fellow does not see how easily money might be made by this plan. There is not one of our large towns in which a man might not realise perhaps a fortune, merely by carrying passengers in omnibusses at twopenne a-head, along the chief thoroughfares. A little perseverance and tact would in this branch of affairs speedily put to rout all the old cumbersome and dear mechanism for conveyance in cities. In the matters of public lecturing, public amusements, and other particulars, the principle of cheapness might likewise be brought extensively into play, and with equal advantage to the speculators, when attempted in a well-selected scene of operation.

##### AN HONEST TOWN.

The pleasures and advantages to be derived from possessing a character for honesty, have nowhere been so fully exemplified on a large scale as in the case of Margate, a sea-bathing town situated on the coast of Kent, near the mouth of the Thames. To this agreeable watering-place crowds of visitors are attracted from London during the summer season, every facility for conveyance to and fro being now offered by a number of excellent steam-boats. Besides salubrity of atmosphere, proximity to the metropolis, and good accommodation for visitors, whether for a day or a season, Margate possesses an attraction of no ordinary nature; and that is, the honesty of the inhabitants. There, a metropolitan pickpocket or thief finds no refuge; he is obliged to decamp before he is a day, or perhaps an hour, in the place. We have often heard visitors speak of the perfect security to property which arises from this absence of depredators. Few of the householders take the trouble to lock their doors at night; and this is a mark of confidence which is seldom, if ever, abused. If any one lose a purse, ring, or other article of value, the finder hastens to restore it to the proper owner. Whatever article you leave inadvertently on the beach, or gardens, you may safely reckon on its being advertised, and of course given up, on making proper application. Nor is any one annoyed about his luggage. On landing, you consign an array of trunks, hat-boxes, and bags, to a porter, telling him to what house they are to be transported, and you give yourself no further trouble: there they are in your parlour, all safe and sound. Thus, in every detail connected with the place, a system of acting on good faith has been established. It may well be supposed that such extraordinary integrity is duly appreciated by the visitors from the metropolis. Considering that every dwelling in London may be described as being in a state of siege—that is, beset with thieves, ready to take advantage of the slightest carelessness in the matter of locking doors, and so forth—this system of confidence must be hailed with indescribable pleasure. The town also derives incalculable benefit from its character for integrity, which every one connected with it strives to maintain unimpaired. The consequence is, a steady flow of respectable visitants, who enrich it by their presence. We mention these circumstances for the purpose of showing that "honesty is the best policy" in the case of communities as well as individuals, and that watering-places, in particular, ought by all means to emulate the practices which have gained for Margate its well-merited reputation.

##### PAVEMENTS AND CROSSINGS.

We often perceive complaints in the newspapers from anonymous correspondents—whose well-meant hints nobody, as a matter of course, attends to—setting forth the deplorable condition of the public thoroughfares, and the grievous want of properly-laid crossings in the streets. We have never felt any surprise as to the badness of the paved streets in towns. No effective principle is employed in keeping them in the order in which they ought to be. The stones are hammered and laid in the way they were laid at the time of the Roman invasion of Britain. After being individually hammered into a shape, they are rammed down singly by old men, with a force altogether inadequate for the purpose. It has been asked a thousand times—why is there not an engine constructed expressly for ramming or beating down pavement? We confess we cannot answer this question. According to the present system, some stones are forced down more than others, or better laid than others; consequently, some sink and produce ruts—ruts lead to repaving, and repaving is the cause of expense. If any intellect superior to that of the most ordinary labourer had ever been employed in the business of paving, we could not have failed long ere now to have been furnished with a system, whereby an equality was to be obtained both in the substratum for the reception of the stones, and in the force called for to drive them home; an equality obviously indispensable to the formation of a lasting pavement. The igno-

rance of the persons employed to lay flat stones for crossings, is fully more conspicuous than that of the ordinary street-layers. The stones are placed side by side, with the seams betwixt them running parallel with the direction of wheeled carriages along the street. The consequence is, that the wheels of the said carriages soon wear down the sides of the stones, so as to create ruts, and render the crossings almost as disagreeable to foot-passengers as the other parts of the thoroughfare. The stones, we need scarcely remark, should be laid at a small angle of deviation from the line of the street, by which means the seams would be preserved, and the pavement made to last infinitely longer than by the present arrangement.

#### STREET-SCRAPERS.

Talking of streets, we are put in mind of an improvement which was effected some time ago in the mode of cleaning Macadamised thoroughfares in the neighbourhood of Edinburgh, and which is perhaps introduced elsewhere. The old plan of cleaning roads, as every body knows, is simply scraping them by the hand with the aid of an ordinary instrument fixed to a long handle. According to the new plan, the scraper is from three to four feet in breadth, and is mounted on two wheels in a frame, which is pushed backward and drawn forward by a man, with apparently as great ease as the scraper of antiquity. The scraping part is composed of a number of flatish teeth, like a series of adzes, ranged closely to each other, and each held down by a spring; whereby, in drawing forward the machine, the inequalities of the road are accommodated, and the mud scraped away with considerable accuracy. In pushing the machine backward, the cross handle is depressed, so as to cause the wheels alone to touch the ground. With this ingeniously constructed instrument, one man is able to execute as much work as six men could accomplish with the ordinary hand-scraper. The next great step in improvement, would be to construct one of these scrapers half the breadth of a road, and draw it along a thoroughfare by a horse. By making the scraping part of a diagonal form, the mud would be forced to the side. In this manner, the streets in a town, or roads in the country, might be cleared at a tenth of the price which is at present expended upon them.

#### TALE OF THE PATIENT GRISELDA.

[Few things in literature are better known to the learned world than the Tale of the Patient Griselda. Yet it is necessary, for the sake of the many unlearned readers whom we address, to mention, that it is a composition of the fourteenth century, having been published, about the year 1330, in the *Decamerone* of Boccaccio—a work of which some notice was presented in a former number of the present work. We are induced to reprint the *Griselda*, by a consideration of the limited number of those who possess the work of the illustrious Italian, either in the original or in an English translation: probably not one in twenty of those who see the tale in these pages, ever saw it any where else. Yet the anecdotes which are told of the admiration excited by this beautiful romance, form in themselves a kind of history. When Petrarch, at the conclusion of his life, read the *Decamerone*, he was most struck with the *Griselda*, which he in the first place learned by heart, in order to repeat it to his friends, and then translated into Latin. On reading the translation to a gentleman at Padua, the latter, touched with the tenderness of the story, burst into such frequent and violent fits of tears, that Petrarch could not read to the end. A Venetian, hearing of this, resolved to try the experiment; he read the whole aloud, from the beginning to the end, without the least change of voice or countenance; but, on returning the book to Petrarch, confessed that it was an affecting story: "I should have wept," he added, "like the Paduan; had I thought the story true; but the whole is a manifest fiction; there never was, nor never will be, such a wife as *Griselda*." The tale was translated, almost within the lifetime of the author, by our own Chaucer, and represented on the French stage as early as the year 1363. At least two modern works—the "*Griselda*" of Miss Edgeworth, and the delightful tale by Mrs Hoffman, entitled "*The Son of a Genius*"—appear to bear reference to the story of Boccaccio; and, lastly, the Scottish ballad of "*Fair Annie*," which was reprinted in the 254th number of the *Journal*, may be considered as a paraphrase of it. The tale is here copied, with a few trifling alterations, from the translation of the *Decamerone*, published by Dodsley in 1741.]

It is a long time ago, that, amongst the marquises of Saluzzo, the principal or head of the family was a youth, called Gualtieri, who, as he was a bachelor, spent his whole time in hawking and hunting, without any thought of ever being encumbered with a wife and children; in which respect, no doubt, he was very wise. But this being disagreeable to his subjects, they often pressed him to marry, to the end he might neither die without an heir, nor they be left without a lord; offering themselves to provide such a lady for him, and of such a family, that they should have great hopes from her, and he reason enough to be satisfied. "Worthy friends," he replied, "you urge me to do a thing which I was fully resolved against, considering what a difficult matter it is to find a person of a suitable temper, with the great abundance every where of such as are otherwise, and how miserable also the man's life must be who is tied to a disagreeable woman. Nevertheless, as you are so fond of having me married, I will agree to be so. Therefore, that I may have nobody to blame but myself, should it happen amiss, I will make my own choice; and I protest, let me marry who I will, that, unless you show her the respect that is due to her as my lady, you shall know,

to your cost, how grievous it is to me to have taken a wife at your request, contrary to my own inclination." The honest men replied, that they were well satisfied, provided he would but make the trial.

Now he had taken a fancy, some time before, to the behaviour of a poor country girl, who lived in a village not far from his palace; and thinking that he might live comfortably enough with her, he determined, without seeking any farther, to marry her. Accordingly he sent for her father, who was a very poor man, and acquainted him with it. Afterwards he summoned all his subjects together, and said to them, "Gentlemen, it was and is your desire that I take a wife: I do it rather to please you, than out of any liking I have to matrimony. You know that you promised me to be satisfied, and to pay her due honour, whoever she is that I shall make choice of. The time is now come when I shall fulfil my promise to you, and I expect you to do the like to me: I have found a young woman in the neighbourhood after my own heart, whom I intend to espouse, and bring home in a very few days. Let it be your care, then, to do honour to my nuptials, and to respect her as your sovereign lady; so that I may be satisfied with the performance of your promise, even as you are with that of mine." The people all declared themselves pleased, and promised to regard her in all things as their mistress. Afterwards they made preparations for a most noble feast, and the like did the prince, inviting all his relations, and the great lords in all parts and provinces about him: he had also most rich and costly robes made, shaped by a person that seemed to be of the same size with his intended spouse; and provided a girdle, ring, and fine coronet, with every thing requisite for a bride. And when the day appointed was come, about the third hour he mounted his horse, attended by all his friends and vassals; and having every thing in readiness, he said, "My lords and gentlemen, it is now time to go for my new spouse." So on they rode to the village; and when he was come near the father's house, he saw her carrying some water from the well, in great haste, to go afterwards with some of her acquaintance to see the new marchioness; when he called her by name, which was *Griselda*, and inquired where her father was. She modestly replied, "My gracious lord, he is in the house." He then alighted from his horse, commanding them all to wait for him, and went alone into the cottage, where he found the father, who was called *Giannucolo*, and said to him, "Honest man, I am come to espouse thy daughter, but would first ask her some questions before thee." He then inquired, whether she would make it her study to please him, and not be uneasy at any time, whatever he should do or say, and whether she would always be obedient; with more to that purpose. To which she answered, "Yes." He then led her out by the hand, and made her strip before them all; and ordering the rich apparel to be brought which he had provided, he had her clothed completely, and a coronet set upon her head, all disordered as her hair was; after which, every one being in amaze, he said, "Behold, this is the person whom I intend for my wife, provided she will accept of me for her husband." Then, turning towards her, who stood quite abashed, "Will you," said he, "have me for your husband?" She replied, "Yes, if it so please your lordship." "Well," he replied, "and I take you for my wife."

So he espoused her in that public manner, and mounting her on a palfrey, conducted her honourably to his palace, celebrating the nuptials with as much pomp and grandeur as though he had been married to the daughter of the king of France; and the young bride showed, apparently, that with her garments she had changed both her mind and behaviour. She had a most agreeable person, and was so amiable, so good-natured, withal, that she seemed rather a lord's daughter than that of a poor shepherd; at which every one that knew her before was greatly surprised. She was also so obedient to her husband, and so obliging in all respects, that he thought himself the happiest man in the world; and to her subjects likewise so gracious and condescending, that they all honoured and loved her as their own lives, praying for her health and prosperity, and declaring, contrary to their former opinion, that *Gualtieri* was the most prudent and sharp-sighted prince in the whole world; for that no one could have discerned such virtues under a mean habit, and country disguise, but himself.

In a very short time, her discreet behaviour and good works were the common subject of discourse, not in that country only, but every where else; and what had been objected to the prince, with regard to his marrying her, now took a contrary turn. They had not lived long together before she brought forth a daughter, for which he made great rejoicings. But soon afterwards a new fancy came into his head, and that was, to make trial of her patience by long and intolerable sufferings: so he began with harsh words, and an appearance of great uneasiness; telling her that his subjects were greatly displeased with her for her mean pretence, especially as they saw she bore children; and that they did nothing but murmur at the daughter already born. Which, when she heard, without changing countenance, or her resolution, in any respect, she replied, "My lord, pray dispose of me as you think most for your honour and happiness: I shall entirely acquiesce, knowing myself to be meaner than the meanest of the people, and that I was altogether unworthy of that dignity to which your favour was pleased to advance me." This was very agreeable to the prince, seeing

that she was no way elevated with the honour he had conferred upon her. Afterwards, having often told her, in general terms, that his subjects could not bear with the daughter that was born of her, he sent one of his servants, whom he had instructed what to do, who, with a very sorrowful countenance, said to her, "Madam, I must either lose my own life, or obey my lord's commands: now he has ordered me to take your daughter, and —" without saying any thing more. She, hearing these words, and noting the fellow's looks, remembering also what she had heard before from her lord, concluded that he had orders to destroy the child. So she took it out of the cradle, kissed it, and gave it her blessing; when, without changing countenance, though her heart throbbed with maternal affection, she tenderly laid it in the servant's arms, and said, "Take it, and do what thy lord and mine has commanded; but, prithee, leave it not to be devoured by the fowls, or wild beasts, unless that be his will." Taking the child, he acquainted the prince with what she said, who was greatly surprised at her constancy, and he sent the same person with it to a relation at Bologna, desiring her, without revealing whose child it was, to see it carefully brought up and educated.

Afterwards the lady was delivered of a son, at which she was extremely pleased. But, not satisfied with what he had already done, he began to grieve and persecute her still more; saying one day to her, seemingly much out of temper, "Since thou hast brought me this son, I am able to live no longer with my people; for they mutiny to that degree, that a poor shepherd's grandson is to succeed, and be their lord after me, that, unless I would run the risk of being driven out of my dominions, I must be obliged to dispose of this child as I did the other, and then to send thee away, in order to take a wife more suitable to me." She heard this with a great deal of resignation, making only this reply: "My lord, study only your own ease and happiness, without the least care for me; for nothing is agreeable to me, but what is pleasing to yourself." Not many days after, he sent for the son in the same manner as he had done for the daughter; and, seeming also as if he had procured him to be destroyed, had him conveyed to Bologna, to be taken care of with the daughter. This she bore with the same resolution as before, at which the prince wondered greatly, declaring to himself, that no other woman was capable of doing the like. And, were it not that he had observed her extremely fond of her children, whilst that was agreeable to him, he should have thought it want of affection in her; but he saw that it was only her entire obedience and condescension. The people, imagining that the children were both put to death, blamed him to the last degree, thinking him the most cruel of men, and showing great compassion for the lady.

Several more years passed on, and the prince, resolving to make the last trial of her patience, declared, before many people, that he could no longer bear to keep *Griselda* as his wife, owing that he had done very foolishly, and like a young man, in marrying her, and that he meant to solicit the pope for a dispensation to take another, and send her away. For this he was much blamed by many worthy persons; but he said nothing in return, only that it should be so. His wife, hearing this, and expecting to go home to her father's, and possibly tend the cattle as she had done before, whilst she saw some other lady possessed of him, whom she dearly loved and honoured, was perhaps secretly grieved; but as she had withstood other strokes of fortune, so she determined resolutely to do now. Soon afterwards, *Gualtieri* had counterfeit letters come to him, as from Rome, acquainting all his people that his holiness thereby dispensed with his marrying another; and turning away *Griselda*, he had her brought before them, when he said, "Woman, by the pope's leave I may dispose of thee, and take another wife. As my ancestors, then, have been all sovereign princes of this country, and thine only peasants, I intend to keep thee no longer, but to send thee back to thy father's cottage, with the same portion which thou broughtest me, and afterwards to make choice of one more suitable in quality to myself." It was with the utmost difficulty she could now refrain from tears; and she replied, "My lord, I was always sensible that my servile condition would no way accord with your high rank and descent. For what I have been, I owe myself indebted to providence and you; I considered it as a favour lent me: you are now pleased to demand it back: I therefore willingly restore it. Behold the ring with which you espoused me; I deliver it to you. You bid me take the dowry back which I brought you; you will have no need for a teller to count it, nor I for a purse to put it in, much less a sumpter-horse to carry it away; for I have not forgotten that you took me naked; and if you think it decent to expose me in that manner, I am contented; but I would entreat you, that you would please to let me have one shift over and above my dowry." He, though ready to weep, yet put on a stern countenance, and said, "Thou shalt have one only then." And, notwithstanding the people all desired that she might have an old gown, to keep her from shame, who had been his wife thirteen years and upwards, yet it was all in vain; so she left his palace in that manner, and returned weeping to her father's, to the great grief of all who saw her. The poor man, never supposing that the prince would keep her long as his wife, and expecting this thing to happen every day, had safely

laid up the day her, and her father's trial of ginsible.

The a daug seemi tials, h have ju respect no wro many o an occ with th such p what la tress of return these welda, a prince yet she your c in her departe she beg cleani meani in the in orde she inv counti pointed receive ner im careful twelve that ev kinswo with a all the lady to know wards, after t dinner- semble lady w present were al went c is most import Griseld might l before and go was un prince ticular The enough all her likewise standing prudent anguishi her firm come b "What lord," if she l happie humbly measur wife, be educate from a Griseld neverth sweete and sai the fru have re in natu all along wife; t and, la as we li have be had a n ment; transgr seem to tend, th away fr once rec caused lady, w as your you and of cruel love and that no than i tionate joy), the



laid up the garments of which she had been despoiled the day he espoused her. He now brought them to her, and she put them on, and went as usual about her father's little household affairs, bearing this fierce trial of adverse fortune with the greatest courage imaginable.

The prince then gave it out that he was to espouse a daughter to one of the counts of Panago; and, seeming as if he made great preparations for his nuptials, he sent for Griselda to come to him, and said to her, "I am going to bring this lady home whom I have just married, and intend to show her all possible respect at her first coming: thou knowest that I have no women with me able to set out the rooms, and do many other things which are requisite on so solemn an occasion. As, therefore, thou art best acquainted with the state of the house, I would have thee make such provision as thou shalt judge proper, and invite what ladies thou wilt, even as though thou wert mistress of the house; and when the marriage is ended, return thee home to thy father's again." Though these words pierced like daggers to the heart of Griselda, who was unable to part with her love for the prince so easily as she had done her great fortune, yet she replied, "My lord, I am ready to fulfil all your commands." She then went into the palace, in her coarse attire, whence she had but just before departed in her shift, and with her own hands did she begin to sweep, and set all the rooms to rights, cleaning the stools and benches in the hall like the meanest servant, and directing what was to be done in the kitchen, never giving over till every thing was in order, and as it ought to be. After this was done, she invited, in the prince's name, all the ladies in the country to come to the feast. And on the day appointed for the marriage, meanly clad as she was, she received them in the most genteel and cheerful manner imaginable. Now, Gualtieri, who had his children carefully brought up at Bologna (the girl being about twelve years old, and one of the prettiest creatures that ever was seen, and the boy six), had sent to his kinswoman there, to desire she would bring them, with an honourable retinue, to Saluzzo; giving it out all the way she came, that she was bringing the young lady to be married to him, without letting any one know to the contrary. Accordingly they all set forward, attended by a goodly train of gentry, and, after travelling some days, reached Saluzzo about dinner-time, when they found the whole country assembled, waiting to see their new lady. The young lady was most graciously received by all the women present, and being come into the hall where the tables were all covered, Griselda, meanly dressed as she was, went cheerfully to meet her, saying, "Your ladyship is most kindly welcome." The ladies, who had greatly importuned the prince, though to no purpose, to let Griselda be in a room by herself, or else that she might have some of her own clothes, and not appear before strangers in that manner, were now seated, and going to be served round, whilst the young lady was universally admired, and every one said that the prince had made a good choice; but Griselda in particular highly commended both her and her brother.

The marquis, now thinking that he had seen enough of his wife's patience, and perceiving that in all her trials she was still the same, being persuaded likewise that this proceeded from no want of understanding in her, because he knew her to be singularly prudent, he thought it time to relieve her from that anguish which he supposed she might conceal under her firm and constant deportment. So, making her come before all the company, he said, with a smile, "What thinkest thou, Griselda, of my bride?" "My lord," she replied, "I like her extremely well; and if she be as prudent as she is fair, you may be the happiest man in the world with her: but I most humbly beg you would not take those heart-breaking measures with this lady as you did with your last wife, because she is very young, and has been tenderly educated, whereas the other was injured to hardships from a child." Gualtieri, perceiving, that, though Griselda thought that person was to be his wife, she nevertheless answered him with great humility and sweetness of temper, he made her sit down by him, and said, "Griselda, it is now time for you to reap the fruit of your long patience, and that they who have reputed me to be cruel, unjust, and a monster in nature, may know that what I have done has been all along with a view to teach you how to behave as a wife; to show them how to choose and keep a wife; and, lastly, to secure my own ease and quiet as long as we live together, which I was apprehensive might have been endangered by my marrying. Therefore I had a mind to prove you by harsh and injurious treatment; and not being sensible that you have ever transgressed my will, either in word or deed, I now seem to have met with that happiness I desired: I intend, then, to restore in one hour what I had taken away from you in many, and to make you the sweetest recompense for the many bitter pangs I have caused you to suffer. Accept, therefore, this young lady, whom you thought my spouse, and her brother, as your children and mine. They are the same which you and many others believed I had been the means of cruelly murdering: and I am your husband, who love and value you above all things; assuring myself that no person in the world can be happier in a wife than I am." With this he embraced her most affectionately, when, rising up together (she weeping for joy), they went where their daughter was sitting, quite

astonished with these things, and tenderly saluted both her and her brother, undeceiving them and the whole company. At this the women all arose, overjoyed, from the tables, and, taking Griselda into the chamber, they clothed her with her own noble apparel, and as a marchioness, resembling such an one even in rags, and brought her into the hall. And being extremely rejoiced with her son and daughter, and every one expressing the utmost satisfaction at what had come to pass, the feasting was prolonged many days. The marquis was judged a very wise man, though abundantly too severe, and the trial of his lady most intolerable; but as for Griselda, she was beyond compare. In a few days the Count da Panago returned to Bologna, and the marquis took Giannucolo from his drudgery, and maintained him as his father-in-law, and so he lived very comfortably to a good old age. Gualtieri afterwards married his daughter to one of equal nobility, continuing the rest of his life with Griselda, and showing her all the respect and honour that was possible. What can we say, then, but that divine spirits may descend from heaven into the meanest cottages; whilst royal palaces shall produce such as seem rather adapted to have the care of hogs, than the government of men. Who but Griselda could, not only without a tear, but even with seeming satisfaction, undergo the most rigid and unheard-of trials of her husband?

#### THE PLEASURE OF BEING WITHOUT A CHARACTER.

A CONTRIBUTOR to an American publication, called the *Knickerbocker*—a sort of monthly magazine—has, we observe, taken up the droll idea of there being a pleasure in the want of a character, or, more properly speaking, in being unknown. He is glad that he has no character to support—that nobody knows him. Hear how this happy dog congratulates himself on his poverty—the blessed obscurity of his condition!

"I have just been thinking what a privilege it is to be poor and unknown, and what a blessing it is to be without a character. Nine-tenths of my enjoyments are such as are not attained by the wealthy or great. They are such as are not permitted to those who have character and reputation and station to sustain. The great pass through life on a high horse. They sit erect. Their heads are elevated, and they move proudly on to their graves, without knowing or feeling a thousandth part of the beauties of the world in which they have lived. I, on the other hand, with my characterless, poverty-stricken brethren, make the journey of life on foot. We hasten not on our way; we take it easy; we cull the flowers which grow along our paths; we avoid the briars and thorns which obstruct it; and when we come to a sunny or a pleasant spot, we sit down and enjoy its beauties, and take the refreshment and rest that our necessities may require. Oftentimes when I have taken my station in front of one of our first-rate print-sellers' window, with my elbows resting on the bar that projects before it, for the purpose of examining at my leisure the various specimens of the arts which he daily displays for the gratification of the public—oftentimes, I say, when I have been so stationed, I have seen the man of consequence, as he wended his way slowly along the street, turn his eyes wistfully towards the splendid display with which I was gratifying my senses, look cautiously around to see if any of his acquaintances were near, stop for a moment, and before he had half gratified his curiosity, start suddenly and guiltily away, and pass on. 'Pass on,' I have said to myself, 'thou slave of custom—thou victim of pride—pass on, and leave the pearls that are scattered in thy path to those who have the good sense to appreciate them.' And then, after such a mental address, I have crowded into my place among the motley and ragged group of amateurs, and with them I have admired the taper form of the sylph-like Taglioni, the graceful ringlets of Mrs Wood, have expressed my astonishment at the sublime conceptions of Martin, pointed out to my less informed neighbours the faults in his 'Belshazzar's Feast,' and have laughed, without fear of giving offence, at the comic power of Cruikshanks.

I am always at hand when a man is run over, or when a sweep falls from a building, help to carry him to the nearest apothecary's shop, and am always one of those who are inside when the door is closed. By these means, I have an opportunity of seeing where the man is hurt, and what are his prospects of recovery, what remedies are applied, how he bears his misfortunes, and thus gain a great deal of useful information.

I attend the parades of the 'Light Guards,' and the 'Tompkins Blues,' see them go through their manoeuvres and drills, and thus pick up a little knowledge of the art of war, to place at the service of my country in time of need.

When the 'Band' comes out with either of the above-mentioned companies, I am not too proud to walk along with the boys on the side-walk, and keep step with the music. It does me good. It excites my martial spirit, it arouses my 'American feelings'; it causes me to think of the revolution; it calls to mind 'the times that tried men's souls'; in short, it makes me a more patriotic citizen, and a greater lover of my country.

I attend all the fires—an admirer of engine No. 14, and Mr Gulick. I am an honorary mem-

ber of the company No. 14, and am in favour of retaining Mr Gulick in his office of chief engineer. I only work at the engine when there is a lack of hands, my general occupation at fires being of a superintending character. I help females and small children to escape from the flames, take care of valuable packages that are thrown into the street, pick up pieces of china and looking-glasses that are cast down for preservation from the upper stories, and see how a stop is finally put to the flames.

I take great interest in the improvement and increase of the city. No citizen, public or private, has been more solicitous than I about the green posts in the Park, or more anxious concerning the introduction of 'pure and wholesome water.' For the last two years I have been a supernumerary superintendent of the erection of a hotel now in the course of being reared. Every morning I would go and contemplate the work of the preceding day. I made the acquaintance of the master builder, and obtained a great deal of information from him relative to the details of the edifice.

These are a few of my occupations and amusements, and they are such as the man of character and the proud man knows not. They are engrossed with themselves, and see not and care not what the world is doing, further than it affects their immediate interests. Their natural tastes are curbed, their impulses are restrained, and their real feelings are concealed. Their whole life is a mask. They are 'star'-actors on the world's stage, while we poor, unwashed, unvaccinated gentlemen are the 'supernumeraries.' They have an arduous and difficult character to sustain, while we have only to hear their ranting, and sing chorus to their songs. They are obliged continually to look and act their parts, while we can crack a joke with the pit, ogle the side-boxes, and have a little fun among ourselves."

#### CLOTH-HALLS AT LEEDS.

COAL, water, and iron, are the three grand sources of success in manufactures, because they afford all that is needed for the making and working of machinery. This combination of advantages exists in an eminent degree in Leeds, and in the woollen district of Yorkshire. Though regarded as the capital town of this great manufacturing district, Leeds is not in its centre, but on its border. Eastward and northward of Leeds, the country is wholly agricultural; westward and to the south-west, in all the valleys and on all the hills betwixt that town and the long and high range that separates Yorkshire from Lancashire, the populous towns and villages resound with the steam-engine and the shuttle, and are daily, save on the Sabbath, canopied by their self-created clouds of smoke. In this district are carried on, a woollen manufacture of great extent and of some antiquity; a worsted stuff manufacture, a modern and vigorous graft on the former; fancy manufactures, of which the raw materials are wool, cotton, and silk; the spinning of flax; and the weaving of linen. The manufactures of Leeds itself are principally that of woollen cloth, the spinning of flax to a great extent, and of worsted to a smaller extent, and one branch of the worsted stuff manufacture; but its merchants also buy extensively the woollen and stuff goods made in the neighbouring towns and villages, and get them finished and dyed; so that Leeds is a general mart for all these fabrics. The operatives in all the branches of manufacture and trade, except the stuff weavers, earn good wages, and thus have the means of great comfort.

The cloth markets of Leeds, held every Tuesday and Saturday, are attended by several hundreds of clothiers from the surrounding villages to a distance of about ten miles. Most of these clothiers are small freeholders, possessing capital enough to keep a few looms at work in their own houses or an adjoining workshop, and often labouring themselves, and employing their families, in weaving. They purchase their own wool, get it dyed at Leeds or elsewhere, and scribbled and slubbed at the mills which perform those processes for hire; they then spin it by means of the jenny, and weave the cloth, which they bring in an undressed state to the Leeds cloth-halls, where it is bought by the merchants, and is afterwards dressed and finished in the mills of that town. From twelve to twenty years since, this system of domestic manufacture seemed in danger of extinction, from the successful rivalry of the factory system. The large manufacturers having, a few years before that time, succeeded, by gig-mills and dressing machinery, in taking the finishing department out of the hands of the croppers, thought they could, with equal advantage, carry on the spinning and weaving in their large establishments, and thus perform every part of the manufacture within the same building, from the sorting of the wool to the turning out of the superfine cloth ready for the draper or tailor. This change was not occasioned by the application of steam-power to the moving of the looms, for the power-loom was then only used in one or two woollen mills, but was recommended chiefly by the advantage of having the cloth made under the eye of the merchant-manufacturer, who expected thus to be able to adapt his fabrics more exactly to the wants of his customers, to command a better cloth, and to obtain for himself the profit of spinning the yarn and making the cloth, as well as of the early and the finishing processes. With this view, extensive weaving shops were attached to

most of the mills, and mule-jennies driven by power were substituted for the jennies of the domestic manufacturers. The calculations of the mill-owners were, however, disappointed. The spinning department succeeded, but not so the weaving. They found it necessary, even in the ordinary state of things, to pay higher wages for weaving in the towns than were paid in the country; and the trades' unions formed amongst the weavers in these large establishments, forced up wages still higher, so as to make it more expensive to the great manufacturers to make the cloth than to buy it of the domestic clothier. In consequence of this, and of the extreme annoyance given by the trades' unions to the masters, many of the leading houses either wholly or partially abandoned the weaving; and the village clothiers, who had been threatened with ruin, regained their trade, and are now enjoying much prosperity. If, however, the power-loom should continue to gain ground as it has done within the last two or three years, and it should appear that woollen cloth can be manufactured better or cheaper by that machine than by the hand-loom, another change must take place, and the town of Leeds will then probably take away much of the weaving from the villages.

The Leeds cloth-halls, of which there are two, one for the sale of coloured cloths, and one for white cloths only, form an interesting spectacle on the market days. They are very large plain structures, not divided into rooms, but forming covered galleries or streets of great length, simply fitted up with low stands or benches along each side of the street, on which the clothiers place their cloth; and leaving an aisle of about two yards in width down the centre, along which the merchants walk, to examine the pieces exposed for sale, and make their bargains. The cloth-halls are under the management of trustees chosen by the clothiers, one or two from each considerable village, and each clothier purchases one or more stands. The market opens, at a certain fixed hour, on the mornings of Tuesday and Saturday, and is kept open only about an hour and a half, during which period all the business of buying and selling is transacted. Punctuality and dispatch are of course requisite. At the appointed hour of commencement, the clothiers are ranged behind their stands, and the merchants enter the hall. When the latter find such pieces of cloth as they require, the price is inquired, and, if a bargain should be struck, a slight memorandum of price and quantity is made on the spot; the cloth is left, and the clothier afterwards takes it to the merchant's warehouse, to be measured and more carefully examined. In this way goods of the value of many thousand pounds are sold each market-day within a very short time. The hour of closing the market is rigidly enforced, by a fine of five shillings being levied on any merchant remaining in the hall five minutes after the ringing of a bell. The remainder of the day is generally spent by the clothier in delivering his goods, in attending their measurement and examination, in receiving payment, in purchasing of the woolstapler a fresh stock of the raw material, and in making his arrangements with the dyer and the mill-owner for dyeing and scribbling the wool. The coloured cloth-hall was built in the year 1750; it forms a great quadrangle, inclosing an area of the same shape. The longer sides of the quadrangle are 128 yards in length, and the shorter 66 yards, and it contains 1800 stands. The white cloth-hall was built in 1775; it is nearly of the same extent as the other hall, and contains 1210 stands. The market in the white cloth-hall commences after that in the coloured cloth-hall is over, so as to allow the merchants an opportunity of attending both. Before the erection of these halls, the cloth-market was held in the long street called Briggate, and on the bridge.

The woollen cloths of Leeds and Yorkshire are confessedly inferior to those of the west of England. About twenty years since, a great improvement in the manufacture and finishing of cloth was made by Mr William Hirst, of Leeds, whose manufacture was at least equal to that of the west of England; and he was able to command a high price for his goods. His success and that of others show that as good cloth may be made in Yorkshire as in Gloucestershire and Wiltshire. But the Yorkshire manufacturers having been habituated to make an inferior article, and to sell it at a lower price, they do not readily abandon their old habits. In cloths of the lower qualities they are unrivalled, and these constitute the great bulk of their production. *Article LEEDS, in new edition of Encyclopædia Britannica.*

#### LACE SEWING IN HAMILTON.

About a hundred years ago, the Duchess Anne of Hamilton, then residing in France, visited some of the lace factories, and was so much taken up with their mode of teaching the art, that she brought a native with her to Hamilton to teach the poor children there. She also brought over some patterns, and even drew some new ones to please her own fancy. One of these new patterns she named Hamilton lace, and appeared at court with her dress ornamented with it. In a short time the higher classes all ordered "Hamilton lace," and the demand soon came to be so great, and the price so encouraging, that both rich and poor about Hamilton learned it and worked at it—the one for pleasure and the other for profit. As it was considered no disparagement for a merchant's wife or daughter to take lessons from the duchess, the trade continued to do much good to the town. About the time the weaving of cotton cloth came to be so extensive, the lace came to be dull, and the women found it necessary to turn their hands to the sewing of muslin. At present there are only three or four old lace-workers in Hamilton. A few years ago, a spirited company in Nottingham sent down from that town a man and two girls to Paisley, to get the lace sewed and tam-

boured; but he could not get hands in sufficient numbers, and had lost all hopes of getting them in Scotland, when some person spoke of Hamilton. He took the hint, and pitched his camp in that town; and he, with his two assistants, soon got plenty of good hands, and for some time he kept the trade wholly with himself, on account of the difficulty of finding thread. Now it has got into a circle of other merchants and agents, who employ more than one thousand workers in and about Hamilton. Veils, tip-pets, caps, and full skirts of all patterns and colours, have been exported to all parts of the world, and though prices have fallen considerably, the women employed make good wages yet.—*Glasgow Chronicle.*

#### A BALLOON ASCENT AT KILMARNOCK.

[The following whimsical verses, in the old rustic Scottish manner, were written on the ascent made by Messrs Roger and Green from Kilmarnock, in the year 1830. We print them from a copy in a manuscript scrap-book. The name of the author is unknown to us.]

Unloose the cords an' let her gang,  
Impatient are the countess thrang;  
Some wine an' biscuit in you pang,  
And set awa:  
Let's see you in the lift, e're lang,  
Less than a craw.

Hail, Roger, hail! thou fearless chiel,  
The slippy wa's o' Heaven's to spiel;  
Beneath your car the eagles feel  
Their mid-air flight;  
Ye'll supper in the stars, if weel,  
This verra night.

An' now, sir, as ye're up aboon,  
Your grappin' airs fix in the moon,  
Pray fling us thence a parritch spoon,  
Or auld tea-kettle,  
Or ocht that ye can smuggle down,  
Be't horn or metal.

Tell a' ye either see or hear,  
But no ae sentence less or mair;  
Remember, lad, we'll gar you swear  
To speak the truth;  
An' if you flinch na' off the square,  
We'll quench your drouth.

We faim wad ken the cost o' meal,  
The weavin' wad, he's paid per cell,  
How land does by the acre sell,  
The price o' stock;  
An', if for forgin' o' a bill,  
They hang pair folk.

Could there a body get a pie,  
Or yill to drink gin he were dry;  
We never will the hazard try  
Frae earth to jink,  
Unless ye tell what's gawn up bye,  
To eat an' drink.

Are poets in the moon respectit,  
Or, as they're here, despis'd, neglectit;  
Are cottars frae their land respectit,  
When auld and pair,  
An' far'd to beg, fate unexpected,  
Frae door to door?

What does this planet, sir, appear,  
When look'd at frae another sphere;  
Is a square, or round, or dark, or clear,  
Some notice tak',  
An', gin ye hae an hour to spare,  
The shape o' it mak'.

Can you distinguish, w' your ee,  
How far the poles o' starn' alee,  
Or tell the cause, why, lately, we  
Had sic wat weather;  
The north-west passage do you see,  
Or is't a blether?

As point, learn for our satisfaction,  
What is the measure o' attraction?  
Hae Luna an' our earth affection,  
For ane another,  
An' some strong nat'l predilection,  
To come together?

If Parliament aboon be met,  
Try you and Green to find a seat;  
O' ilka motion and debate  
Tak notes verbatim;  
To us they may supply some great  
Desideratum.

Bring Horton plans o' emigration,  
To Malthus, state the population,  
For Sinclair, tak' an observation  
O' agriculture;  
He'll seize statistic information  
Like ony culture.

Exert yourself, an' be na idle,  
Nor fice about an' dancie or fiddle;  
Wi' their religion dianna middle—  
In this be fix'd;  
Yet ye may just look gin their Bible  
Be pure or mix'd.

Tell Luna bodies something new,  
At naething stick to fill them fou,  
Ilk plan an' secret frae them screw,  
When down'd their senses;  
Kilmarnock ballies will pay you  
A' just expenses.

In Luna, sir, what is the practice  
O' governments in raisin' taxes?  
Just simply tell us what the fact is,  
Since this we spier;  
An' if ocht better there the fact is,  
We'll try it here.

What is the uniform o' weavers?  
Here they lang wh-kers, like our badgers?  
Are whisky-sellers' fash' w' gaugers?  
White seizin' kags?  
Or kintra women hoax'd by cadgers  
When selling eggs.

Is there the duty aff the leather?  
Are bosoms made o' broom or heather?  
Do wives an' husbands bark at lither,  
In hutev' strife?  
How strong, sir, is the marriage tether?  
Does't haid for life?

Do kings rule there by right divine,  
Or man the fowls a charter sign?  
Their subjects' rights to keep in min',  
An' stick by law?  
This falling, does the guillotine  
Do ocht ava?

\* A groundless and foolish master of talk.

Is Morton \* worthy o' our faith,  
When he avers, upon his aith,  
That, w' his glass, he sees white clath  
On Luna's hedge?  
An' can discern, when clear, plow-graith,  
An' swarms o' midges?

This you maun learn 'bout Luna's markets,  
Hae we ocht here, that peace or war fits?  
In kindness, then, sell twa-three forpits  
O' seeds for Samson;  
An' if ye can, some score o' carpets,  
For Brown an' Tamson.

The poet's guid it micht advance,  
Co'd ye, in truth, just say at once  
That Catrine blinks? wad hae a chance  
To tak the lead;  
Necht like them can be got frae France  
Sae cheap an' guid.

Ye're but a pilgrim in the moon,  
Sae bide na there to wear your shoon,  
Gude sen' ye safe an' quickly down,  
Reef-steaks to tak';  
We wadna' grudge a white half-crown  
To hear your crack.

\* A famous self-taught maker of astronomical instruments in Kilmarnock.  
† A certain description of cotton goods.

#### HYDROPHOBIA.

An idea has lately been started, and supported with considerable plausibility of argument, that hydrophobia is merely a nervous affection, very much, if not almost altogether, arising from the influence of the imagination; and that it is therefore as susceptible of cure as any other complaint connected with the nerves. Whether there be any truth in this statement, we cannot take upon ourselves to say. Our medical men ought to be the judges in the case, and should lose no time in ascertaining how far this most dreadful of all maladies can be cured by the course of practice suggested. The following is the account given by M. Buisson, a physician at Paris, of his experience of hydrophobia, and his mode of cure. It is extracted from a treatise addressed to the French Academy of Sciences in 1833, and appeared lately in a London newspaper.

"M. Buisson had been called to visit a woman, who for three days was said to be suffering under this disease. She had the usual symptoms—contraction of the throat, inability to swallow, abundant secretion of saliva, and foaming at the mouth. Her neighbours said she had been bitten by a mad dog about forty days before. At her own urgent entreaties, she was bled, and died a few hours after, as was expected.

M. Buisson, who had his hands covered with blood, incautiously cleaned them with a towel which had been used to wipe the mouth of the patient. He then had an ulceration upon one of his fingers, yet thought it sufficient to wash off the saliva that adhered with a little water.

The ninth day after, being in his cabinet, he was suddenly seized with a pain in his throat, and one, still greater, in his eyes. The saliva was continually pouring into his mouth; the impression of a current of air; the sight of brilliant bodies, gave him a painful sensation. His body appeared to him so light, that he felt as though he could leap to a prodigious height. He experienced, he said, a wish to run and bite—not men, but animals and inanimate bodies. Finally, he drank with difficulty; and the sight of water was still more distressing to him than the pain in his throat.

These symptoms recurred every five minutes, and it appeared to him as though the pain commenced in the affected finger, and extended thence up to the shoulder.

From the whole of the symptoms, he judged himself affected with hydrophobia, and resolved to terminate his life by stifling himself in a vapour bath. Having entered one for this purpose, he caused the heat to be raised to 117 deg. 38 min. Fahrenheit, when he was equally surprised and delighted to find himself free of all complaint. He left the bathing-room well, dined heartily, and drank more than usual. Since that time, he says, he has treated in the same manner more than eighty persons bitten, in four of whom the symptoms had declared themselves, and in no case has he failed, except in that of one child, seven years old, who died in the bath.

The mode of treatment he recommends is, that the person bit should take a certain number of vapour baths (commonly called Russian), and should induce, every night, a violent perspiration by wrapping himself in flannel, and covering himself with a feather bed; the perspiration is favoured by drinking freely of a warm decoction of sarapellilla.

He declares he is so convinced of the efficacy of this mode of treatment, that he will suffer himself to be inoculated with the disease. As a proof of the utility of copious and continued perspiration, he relates the following anecdote:—A relative of the musician Griety was bitten by a mad dog, at the same time with many other persons, who all died of hydrophobia. For his part, feeling the first symptoms of the disease, he took to dancing night and day, saying "that he wished to die gallily." He recovered.

M. Buisson also cites the old stories of dancing being a remedy for the bite of a tarantula, and draws attention to the fact that the animals in whom this madness is most frequently found to develop itself spontaneously, are dogs, wolves, and foxes, which never perspire.

#### THE MILLER AND THE FOOL.

A miller, who attempted to be witty at the expense of a youth of weak intellect, accosted him with, "John, people say that you are a fool." On this John replied, "I don't know that I am, sir; I know some things, sir, and some things I don't know, sir." "Well, John, what do you know?" "I know that millers always have fat hogs, sir." "And what don't you know?" "I don't know whose corn they eat, sir."

#### CHEAP GETTING UP.

Distress, even when positive or superlative, is still only comparative. "Such is the pressure of the times in our town," said a Birmingham manufacturer, to his agent in London, "that we have good workmen; who will get up the inside of a watch for eighteen shillings." "Pooh! that is nothing compared to London," replied his friend; "we have boys here, who will get up the inside of a chimney for sixpence."

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